2000-2001

Provincial Library Service Annual Report

Prince Edward Island
CANADA

Mission Statement

To provide an efficient and effective public library service to meet the needs of Islanders for information, education and recreation through the provision of access to library resources regardless of geographic location.

Minister's Message

With more than one in three Islanders carrying a library card, provision of library services is clearly one of the most popular of the services that government offers to the people of Prince Edward Island. We are proud of a partnership with communities that allows us to have increasing support for quality libraries. This support is reflected in continuing increases in library use, as well as increased investment by communities in library facilities.

Libraries have led the way for new sources of access to information. We are among the leaders in the nation in the availability of public internet access for our citizens, and our libraries are constantly striving to make more resources available to more people.

During the past year, the link between Access PEI and the Provincial Library Service has been strengthened with the opening of a new public library in Stratford giving people of that community access to a full range of government services as well as the resources of the library.

This annual report provides a picture of a vibrant institution which is constantly changing to meet the needs of Islanders – no matter where in the province they live.

Gail a Shea

Gail Shea,
Minister

* On May 1, 2000, the Culture, Heritage, Recreation and Sport Division and the Provincial Library Service moved to the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs from the Department of Education.

Provincial Library Service

Organizational Chart*

*as of March 31, 2001

Branches

Libraries are located across Prince Edward Island in:

Abram-Village	Hunter River	O'Leary
Alberton	Kensington	Souris
Borden-Carleton	Kinkora	St. Peters
Breadalbane	Montague	Stratford
Charlottetown*	Morell	Summerside
Cornwall	Mount Stewart	Tignish
Crapaud	Murray River	Tyne Valley
Georgetown	Murray Harbour	

*Confederation Centre, Government Services and Carrefour de l'Isle-Saint-Jean

Provincial Library Service Circulation 2000-2001

	2000-2001	1999-2000	1998-1999	1997-1998	1996-1997
Branch Libraries	280,997	268,407	236,470	208,373	200,689
Rotary Regional Library Summerside	121,105	118,062	109,485	97,693	96,921
Charlottetown Branches	354,502	339,235	330,806	315,384	275,587
French Services	44,558	46,712	43,902	28,637	25,713
Total	801,162	772,416	720,663	650,087	598,910
Percentage Increase	3.6%	6.7%	9.8%	7.9%	0.6%

Public Services

More than 800,000 items were circulated from libraries across the province. This is a 34 per cent increase from 1996-1997 and is the highest circulation ever recorded in the province.

Library memberships increased by 16 per cent to 46,000. One in every three Islanders now has a library card.

More than 1,500 library programs, ranging from story times for children to poetry readings, were held in branch libraries across the province with a total attendance of 18,000.

Public use of library Internet facilities continued to rise. In 2000-2001, 44,600 Internet sessions were recorded. This represents an increase of more than 80 per cent over the last two years.

A province-wide licence enabling library card holders to access online databases from their homes as well as libraries was negotiated. During the first quarter of 2001, almost 8,000 searches of the databases were recorded.

Additional library system site licences were acquired to reduce congestion at peak service periods.

The Government Services Library circulated journals to almost 14,000 readers throughout government.

The introduction of the AbbyCat system allows requests for material in other branches of the system. In 2000-2001 more than 90,000 items were transferred between branches to respond to patron requests.

In order to respond to reader requests, the Provincial Library Service (PLS) increased its leasing of high interest materials and has reduced waiting times for popular books

A public service feedback system was initiated and several improvements made as a result. A frequent request was for additional hours in rural libraries.

Community Partnerships

The first new community library location in more than 15 years was opened in Stratford. Through a partnership with Access PEI and the town, the PLS was able to respond to a long-standing desire of the community to have a library. The new library contains almost 10,000 volumes and provides the full range of library services as well as government services through Access PEI.

The PLS continued its valuable partnership with the Industry Canada Community Access Program; and in many library locations, training and assistance was made available to the public using staff hired through this program.

Planning began for the addition of Access PEI services at the Crapaud Public Library.

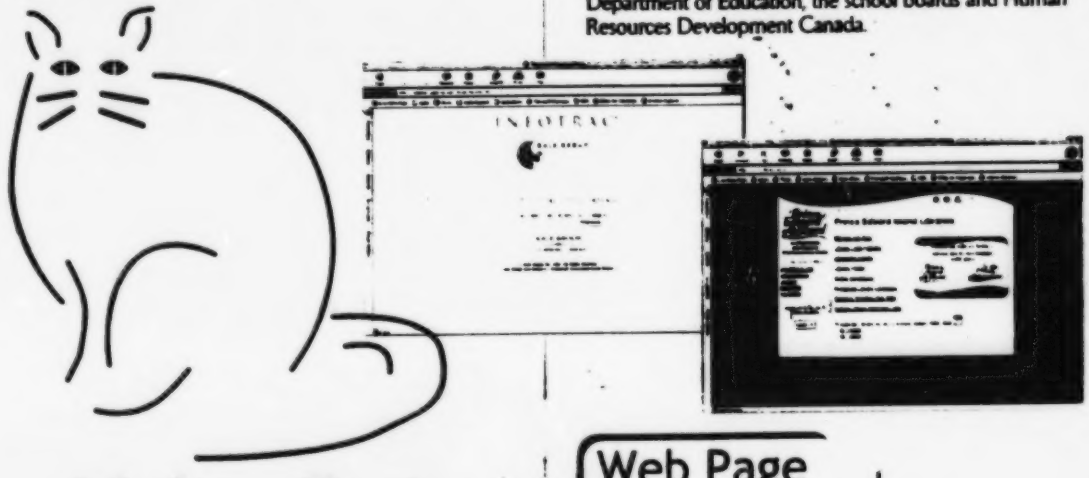
Improvements were made to the Murray Harbour library by the community providing better space for library purposes.

Partnership with Industry Canada's Computers for Schools and Libraries Program resulted in additional computer equipment being installed in several library locations.

Services for Children

The 2000 Summer Reading Club with the theme *Read – It's in your nature / Lire c'est dans ma nature* was held in public libraries across the province with 862 children registered. Again this year the materials for the program were prepared in cooperation with the public libraries of New Brunswick.

Almost all libraries in the province participated in the Summer Literacy program which was presented in partnership with the Department of Education, the school boards and Human Resources Development Canada.



Web Page

The World Wide Web page is provided at *www.library.pe.ca*. This is the launching point to all electronic library services including *AbbyCat*, *InfoTrac Web*, a *Library Finder* and *Coming Events*.

The Collection

With increased funding and donations, the size of the catalogued collection rose to 306,000 volumes encompassing 210,000 titles. Also more than 30,000 items have partial cataloguing.

In addition, some 300,000 government documents are available through the Government Services Library.

A project began to provide cataloguing for government documents to make them more accessible to the public.

More than 23,000 new volumes were added to the collection. Of these almost one in three was donated to the library by the public.

In 2000/2001, the average book price rose to $24.34, an increase of $4.69 from the previous year.

Weeding resulted in more than 5,000 worn, damaged or outdated books being removed to provide shelf space for new materials.

An inventory of the collection was completed resulting in lost and misplaced books being identified.

Staff

Former Provincial Librarian Don Scott retired after more than 30 years service to the province. Allan Groen was appointed the new Provincial Librarian.

Johanne Jacob, French services librarian, was seconded to play a lead role in the development of a French school/community centre in Summerside.

Staff received additional computer training using the mobile training lab donated to the library by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Don Scott is congratulated on his retirement by former PLS staff member Priscilla Yhelenstam.

Services to Schools

The school library/media consultant assisted school personnel in areas related to collection development at several schools.

More than 235 hours of videotape were duplicated from master tapes held in the video library for use in schools.

An additional 6,700 volumes for school libraries were processed through regular school operating fund purchases.

The capital grant for the new Donagh Regional School resulted in $16,800 being made available for library purchases for the school.

In addition to purchases made through the Provincial Library Service, schools sent more than 8,300 items to the PLS for processing.

The number of school items handled for schools at the Morell technical services section exceeded 15,000.

Provincial Library Service Budget

	2000-2001	1999-2000
Administration	33,400	59,400
Equipment	3,600	3,600
Materials, Supplies & Services	355,200	288,200
Professional & Contract Services	11,500	12,000
Salaries	1,520,500	1,506,700
Travel & Training	31,100	27,100
Total	$2,234,300	$1,897,000

Minister Shea presents Volunteer Recognition Award to long-time library volunteer Elinor Vass.

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